

OLL 85- 0893
27 February 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing on Bolivia

HFA C

1. On 27 February 1985, Representatives Joe Barton (R., TX) and Robert Lagomarsino (R., CA) were briefed on the current situation in Bolivia. Also present from the House Foreign Affairs Committee staff were Rob Kurz, Jake Dunman and George Ingram. The briefers were [redacted] from the Directorate of Intelligence/Office of African and Latin American Analysis. The briefing took place in Mr. Lagomarsino's office from 1600 - 1700. [redacted]

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2. The briefing was given at the request of Mr. Barton whose interest in Bolivia was stirred by one of his constituents of Bolivian descent who retains close ties with family members in Bolivia. The analysts provided a comprehensive overview of the political/economic situation and responded to a number of questions regarding the Siles government. The discussion covered President Siles' recent economic moves, rising popular unrest, the outlook for presidential elections in June 1985, and the Bolivian drug trade. It was pointed out that economic deterioration and political pressures are likely to continue to cloud Bolivia's future, and a coup could oust Siles at any time. Nonetheless, Bolivia's situation is not as grim as it appeared in late 1984. [redacted]

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3. Mr. Barton expressed satisfaction with the briefing and said he may seek an update in the future. He probably will channel any such request through the House Foreign Affairs Committee. [redacted]

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[redacted]
Liaison Division
Office of Legislative Liaison

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[redacted]
Acting Chief, Liaison Division, OLL

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